



## **TOWN OF GARNER**

### **NEWS RELEASE-01**

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Garner Wins All-America City Award**

DENVER (June 16) – The Town of Garner has been named one of 10 All-America Cities for 2013. The award announcement, made tonight at a ceremony in Denver, follows Garner's presentation to a panel of 12 judges on Saturday afternoon. The town was competing against 19 other finalists to win the All-America City Award.

Garner's presentation highlighted citizen-led efforts to build the Garner Veterans Memorial; to create and sustain Community of Hope's after-school program, food pantry and other activities; and to boost the performing arts scene at Garner Performing Arts Center.

"This award validates all of the great work that citizens, nonprofit groups, the faith community and local businesses are doing in Garner," Mayor Ronnie Williams said. "I've always known that Garner is an All-America city, but it's thrilling to get the official designation."

The town's application for the award, as well as Saturday's presentation, cited other citizen-led efforts such as the Meals on Wheels program at Garner Senior Center, the town's annual Relay

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for Life event at Lake Benson Park and grassroots activism to save Garner from the Triangle Expressway “red route” and block closure of the Wake County Library Southeast Regional Branch in Garner.

The All-America City Award recognizes citizen engagement, cross-sector collaboration, innovation and inclusiveness. It showcases grassroots solutions to meeting pressing challenges and critical needs in communities across the country.

The prestigious award has been dubbed the “Nobel Prize” for civic accomplishment. Garner is the first locality in the Triangle to win the honor since Durham in 1982-83. The last Wake County municipality to earn the award was Raleigh in 1974-75.

The All-America City program is administered by the Denver-based National Civic League. For more information, visit [www.allamericacityaward.com](http://www.allamericacityaward.com).

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